

IN THE  
INDIANA TAX COURT

NO.49T10-9309-TA-70

TOWN OF ST. JOHN, <i>et al.</i> ,	)
	)
Petitioners,	)
	)
v.	)
	)
DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT	)
FINANCE as successor to the	)
STATE BOARD OF TAX	)
COMMISSIONERS,	)
	)
Respondents.	)

**MONTHLY REPORT 23**

As successor to the State Board of Tax Commissioners, this is the twenty-third monthly report of the Department of Local Government Finance ("DLGF") under the Court's order dated May 31,2000, 729 N.E.2d 242,247. The report explains the DLGF's activities during April 2002 to implement the Court's order. An outline of those activities is included as Exhibit A.

*Lake County Reassessment*

On April 30, the DLGF terminated the contract with Arthur Andersen LLP for the Lake County reassessment. The DLGF is negotiating with other vendors to take over this project, but could not negotiate with one of the potential vendors, a subcontractor to

Andersen, until terminating the Andersen contract. The DLGF hopes to finalize new contracts within seven to ten days. The DLGF believes that this change is in the best interests of the State and County and that it will provide for the completion of an accurate reassessment with high credibility. The DLGF is taking steps to assure that this change will not preclude timely completion of reassessment.

The DLGF did not divert funds that would otherwise be payable to Lake County to the independent reassessment contractor. Work is nonetheless proceeding on the reassessment of Lake County, despite lack of payment. Cole Layer Trumble, the professional appraising subcontractor, has begun field work and data collection and is continuing work despite termination of the prime contract.

#### *Computer Software*

The contract with Manatron for computer hardware and software for the Lake county reassessment was approved. Computer hardware has been ordered under the contract.

#### *Proposed Rules*

The DLGF is considering comments on proposed rules, including the proposed equalization rule. The DLGF has set a meeting for May 22, 2002, with the DLGF Rules Panel to act on the rule and to consider the Brown County shelter allowance rule, the assessor-appraiser rule and the Manual selection rule.

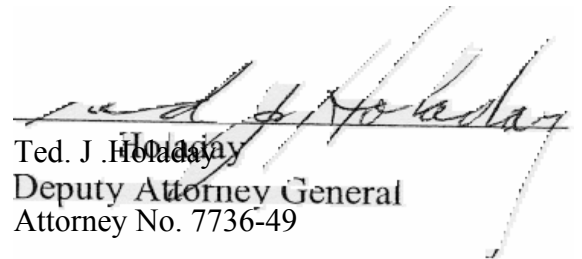
Proposed rules on the reassessment of mobile homes are in the May Indiana Register. A public hearing is set for May 22,2002, at 10:00 a.m.

*New Commissioner*

On April 26, 2002, Governor O'Bannon appointed Lisa Acobert to be commissioner of the DLGF. She had been the deputy commissioner. She will begin her official duties as commissioner on June 1, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

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Indiana Attorney General



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